

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 were pending in this application. No claims have been amended, added, or canceled. Hence, claims 1-21 remain pending. Reconsideration of the subject application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,516,337 to Tripp et al. ("Tripp") in view of US Patent No. 6,418,452 to Kraft et al. ("Kraft"). Applicants respectfully maintain that the cited references fail to disclose all of the recitations of the claims.

As stated in Applicant's response dated October 20, 2004, neither reference teaches or suggest the recitations of claim 1 of removing directory information from a global catalog if a first site fails to autonomously report in before a first timer expires. The rejection of this recitations of claim 1 is illustrated below, in which the portions that the Final Office Action states are taught by Tripp are underlined and the portions that the Final Office Action states are taught by Kraft are in bold.

"a first timer, wherein the first local catalog is removed from the global catalog if the first site fails to autonomously report in before the first timer expires."

As can be appreciated graphically, the recitation has been portioned between the two references. Applicants respectfully object to the dissection of the recitation in this manner. As can be appreciated graphically, the recitation includes an if condition (first site fails to autonomously report in) then take action (remove local catalog from global catalog). Neither reference teaches or suggests taking the specified action of removing local catalog information from a global catalog upon occurrence of the condition that the site fails to autonomously report in.

Additionally, Applicants respectfully maintain that the brochure information disclosed by Tripp by cannot be equated with a local catalog. In response to similar remarks previously presented by the Applicants, the Final Office Action states that the brochure file helps identify and classify a website and enables the website to be catalogued. Even if true, information that enables cataloging of websites is not itself a catalog or directory information.

As neither Tripp, nor Kraft, teaches or suggests the recitation of claim 1 discussed above, Applicants respectfully request the rejection to claim 1 be withdrawn and the claim be allowed. Claims 8 and 15 contain recitations similar to those discussed above with reference to claim 1. The remaining claims depend on one of claims 1, 8, or 15. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the allowance of these claims as well.

As remarked previously, Applicants also believe these claims are allowable for additional reasons. For instances, claim 7 recites a directory web page organizing at least some of the content objects included in the global catalog by categories. In response, the Final Office action states that Tripp can find brochure files according to their data fields (equated to categories). Even if true, data fields associated with brochure files in a data store cannot be equated with a web page that organizes the brochure files. Additionally, unlike Tripp, claim 7 recites that the directory web page organizes objects included in the global catalog recited in claim 1. In the rejection of claim 1, the global catalog was equated to Tripp's catalog of object references. Thus, for the rejection of claim 7 to be proper, Tripp would have to disclose a directory web page that organizes the object references by category. Applicants respectfully submit that Tripp does not disclose such an organization. Kraft also fails to teach or suggest these recitations. Applicants therefore believe claim 7 is allowable for the additional reasons.

As another example, Applicants respectfully submit that neither reference teaches or suggests the recitations of claim 21 that the first directory information includes content objects selected for publication to the third directory by an administrator of the first site. In Tripp, a central server includes a master index containing catalog information. The catalog information

and updates are provided by agent programs on web hosts. Tripp, col. 8, ll. 62-66. Applicants understanding is that this catalog information was equated in the Office action to the third directory information of claim 15. Thus, to disclose the recitations of claim 21, Tripp would have to disclose that administrators of the web hosts select which content is published the third directory. Applicants respectfully submit that Tripp fails to teach or suggest that content for publication is selected by administrators. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 21 is allowable for these additional reasons.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

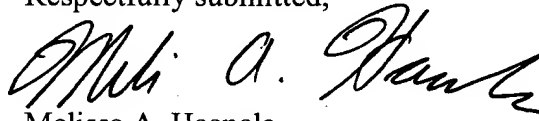
If there remains any issues of allowance with this application, Applicant's respectfully request a telephone interview with the Examiner. Applicant's representative, Melissa Haapala, may be reached at 303-571-4000.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Date: March 23, 2005

Respectfully submitted,



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